A SUMMARY HISTORY OF THE OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC. 1911-2016

REVISED INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM 2014
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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. is committed to the idea that selecting and educating men for future service can be accomplished best by a uniform intake process. Therefore, any activities which conflict with the program presented by the Regional Intake Team are expressly prohibited. Also, please note that there is no reference to pledging as a concept or practice in this guide. “Pledging” was abolished by the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity in 1985.

As you prepare for a basic understanding of the history and progress of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., it is anticipated that you will review this material carefully in preparation for passing an examination required of all applicants for membership.

The study guide is not intended to serve as an official history of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. It is a selected compilation of essential information found in the two official history books authored by Herman Dreer and Robert L. Gill, copies of the Oracle (1962-1985), the personal files of Edward J. Braynon, Jr. and data contained at the International Headquarters.

This document is intended to serve as a convenient source of basic information for you as an applicant for membership.

The History of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, 1911-1939, by Herman Dreer, and The History of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., 1911 – 1961 by Robert L. Gill should be read whenever the books are available.

A special acknowledgement and tremendous appreciation are extended to Brother Edward J. Brayton, Jr., Past Grand Basileus, for authoring the original version of this summary history.

S. Earl Wilson

Executive Director

May 2002
2002 Revised Edition
INTRODUCTION

Phi Beta Kappa, the first American college fraternity, was organized on the campus of the College of William and Mary in 1776. Men and women are members of this honorary scholarship society.

Greek-lettered fraternities and sororities have played a major role in American college life since 1776. Black college fraternities and sororities did not emerge until the early 1900s. Unlike their white counterparts, the black groups have played a major role in the cultural, social, and civic life of their communities.

The member organizations of the National Pan-Hellenic Council are:

- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Howard University, 1908
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Howard University, 1913
- Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Butler University, 1922
- Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Howard University, 1920
- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Cornell University, 1906
- Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Indiana University, 1911
- Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Howard University, 1914
- Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Morgan State University, 1963
- Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Howard University, 1911

THE BIRTH OF OMEGA

On Friday evening, November 17, 1911, three Howard University undergraduate students, with the assistance of their faculty advisor, gave birth to the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. This event occurred in the office of biology professor Ernest E. Just, the faculty advisor. The three liberal arts students were Edgar A. Love, Oscar J. Cooper, and Frank Coleman.

From the initials of the Greek phrase meaning “Friendship is essential to the soul,” the name Omega Psi Phi was derived. The phrase was selected as the motto. Manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift were adopted as cardinal principles. A decision was made regarding the design for the pin and emblem, and thus ended the first meeting of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

The next meeting was conducted on November 23, 1911. Edgar A. Love became the first Grand Basileus (National President). Cooper and Coleman were selected as Grand Keeper of Records (National Secretary) and Grand Keeper of Seals (National Treasurer), respectively. Eleven Howard University undergraduate men were selected as charter members.

Alpha Chapter was organized with fourteen charter members on December 15, 1911. Love, Cooper, and Coleman were elected the chapter’s first Basileus, Keeper of Records, and Keeper of Seals, respectively.

On March 8, 1912, the previously submitted fraternity constitution was rejected by Howard University. The fraternity was authorized to function as a local, but not a national organization. The fraternity refused acceptance as a strictly local organization.
Oscar Cooper became the fraternity’s second Grand Basileus in 1912. Cooper authorized the investigation of a proposed second chapter at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania.

Edgar Love was elected as the third Grand Basileus in 1912 and served until 1915. In 1914, Howard University withdrew its opposition, and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity was incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia on October 28, 1914. Beta Chapter at Lincoln University was chartered in February 1914.

George E. Hall, the fourth Grand Basileus, had been initiated at Alpha Chapter in 1914. Grand Basileus Hall authorized the establishment of Gamma Chapter in Boston, Massachusetts. However, the chapter was eventually established during the administration of the fifth Grand Basileus, James C. McMorries.

During the administration of the sixth Grand Basileus, Clarence F. Holmes, the fraternity’s first official hymn, “Omega Men Draw Nigh,” was written by Otto Bohannon.

Raymond G. Robinson, the seventh Grand Basileus, established Delta Chapter in Nashville, Tennessee in 1919. Robinson left office in 1920 with a total of ten chapters in operation.

Stanley Douglass served as editor of the first Oracle published in the spring of 1919.

Harold K. Thomas, the eighth Grand Basileus, was elected at the 1920 Nashville Grand Conclave. It was at this Grand Conclave that Dr. Carter G. Woodson inspired the establishment of National Achievement Week to promote the study of Negro life and history.

The 1921 Atlanta Grand Conclave brought to an end the first decade of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

INTERNAL GROWTH
In 1922, Grand Basileus J. Alston Atkins appointed the first District Representatives. Today, there are twelve such officers who are elected annually by the district conferences/meetings.

In 1922, the office of Vice Grand Basileus was created. The Grand Keeper of Records became the Grand Keeper of Records and Seal. The first Omega Bulletin was published in 1928. Campbell C. Johnson was the editor.

“Omega Dear” was adopted as the official hymn in 1931. Two faculty members from Howard University, Charles R. Drew and Mercer Cook, professor of languages, were the composers. Cook wrote the music and first stanza; Drew wrote the last two stanzas.

THE FORTIES
The Omega “Sweetheart Song,” with words and music by Don Q. Pullen, was adopted as the official sweetheart song by the 1940 Nashville Grand Conclave.

Founder Ernest E. Just entered Omega Chapter in 1941.
In 1941, Dr. Charles Drew perfected the use of blood plasma as a lifesaving tool. This work earned him the prestigious Spingarn Medal from the NAACP in 1944.

William Hastie resigned as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War in protest against discrimination in the Armed Forces. He was later appointed Governor of the Virgin Islands by President Truman.

In 1949, the first National Headquarters Building at 107 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W., Washington D.C. was purchased.

H. Carl Moultrie was selected to serve as the first National Executive Secretary.

In 1949, the scholarship fund was renamed the Charles R. Drew Memorial Scholarship Fund.

**THE FIFTIES**

During this era, the thrust was social change. Thousands of Omega men in every area of the country were actively involved in the fight to eliminate racial discrimination. An entire book could be written about this phase of Omega activities.

The 1955 Los Angeles Grand Conclave initiated a program whereby each graduate chapter would purchase a Life Membership from the NAACP. Between 1955 and 1959, chapters contributed nearly $40,000 to the NAACP.

In the fifties, Omega Psi Phi took an official position against hazing as a fraternity activity. This anti-hazing position remains in effect today, and the policy banning hazing has been strengthened.

**THE SIXTIES**

The struggle for social justice shifted into high gear. Brothers were active participants in the "sit-ins" and other demonstrations designed to call attention to the discrimination that existed within the country. Brothers were actively involved in the demonstration aspect of the civil rights struggle.

In 1961, the Washington, D.C. Grand Conclave did an excellent job of highlighting the fifty years of accomplishment by Omega. Brothers attended the 1961 Golden Anniversary Conclave in record numbers. Founders Love, Cooper, and Coleman were present. Thirteen of twenty-three former Grand Basilei were in attendance. Young brothers had the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to mingle with some of the greatest black men that America had produced.

The Golden Anniversary Conclave authorized $140,000 - $150,000 for the construction of a new National Headquarters Building in Washington, D.C.

In 1964, the new National Headquarters Building was dedicated. The building was a dream come true and was the first building of its type built by a black fraternity. Founders Love, Cooper, and Coleman participated in the ceremonies. The name was later changed to the International Headquarters. It is located at 2714 Georgia Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.
In 1966, Robert H. Lawrence was selected as the first Black to serve in the astronaut program. Lawrence had earned a Ph.D. degree in chemistry at Ohio State University.

Founder Frank Coleman entered Omega Chapter in 1967.

The 1968 Charlotte Grand Conclave mandated a constitutional convention for the revision of the Constitution and By-Laws as well as the Ritual. The constitutional convention was held in Atlanta, GA in 1969.

THE SEVENTIES
The newly revised Constitution and By-Laws and the Ritual became effective at the close of the 1970 Pittsburgh Grand Conclave.

H. Carl Moultrie I, Omega’s only National Executive Secretary to this point, was appointed as a judge to the Superior Court of Washington, D.C. in 1972. Moultrie’s resignation was accepted with regrets. Omega conferred upon Moultrie the title of National Executive Secretary Emeritus, which was later changed to Executive Secretary Emeritus.

The seventies brought more unpleasant news. Founder Oscar J. Cooper entered Omega Chapter in 1972. In 1974, Edgar A Love, the only surviving founder, entered Omega Chapter.

In December 1974 the 56th Grand Conclave was held in Phoenix, Arizona. The 56th Grand Conclave, upon recommendation by the Supreme Council, authorized an expenditure of $15,000 to erect a permanent monument to the four Founders of the Fraternity. Two architecture students at Howard University, both of whom were members of Alpha Chapter, submitted sketches. The sketch submitted by Sampson P. Boozer was selected. Frank B. “Frankie P” Patterson, Chairman of the Founders Monument Committee, orchestrated, through the Supreme Council, the construction of the monument. The foundation was laid and the monument shipped and installed on the campus of Howard University on September 15, 1975.

On Sunday, November 16, 1975, thousands of Omega men, their families, the families of the Founders, and many friends gathered in front of Thirkield Hall for the unveiling and dedication of the 18 ton granite monument.

A revived Life Membership Program resulted in a very large number of new Life Members.

The 1976 Atlanta Grand Conclave was the largest in the history of the fraternity up to that point in time.

Many new undergraduate chapters were chartered because of the increased enrollment of black students and previously all-white colleges and universities.

“Operation Big Vote” was successful in getting thousands of black people to vote in the 1976 election. Many Omegas were active participants.

The 1979 Denver Grand Conclave made a commitment to contribute a minimum of $250,000 to the United Negro College Fund over the next few years.
THE EIGHTIES AND NINETIES

In 1981, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity endowed its first Omega Faculty Chair. Rust College, Holly Springs, Mississippi, was the recipient. President W. A. McMillan stated that the Chair would be used to promote the humanities.

The fraternity completed its $250,000 contribution to the United Negro College Fund, and organization under the direction of Christopher Edley. The fraternity approved a plan to continue the annual gift of $50,000 to that organization in perpetuity.

The fraternity accelerated its financial support to the National Urban League. Mr. John Jacobs, Executive Director of the National Urban League, participated in Grand Conclaves on a regular basis.

Jesse Jackson, former president of Operation P.U.S.H., and founder of the Rainbow Coalition, attended Grand Conclaves on a regular basis and received support for these organizations as well as for his 1984 and 1988 campaigns for the presidency of the United States.

The 75th Anniversary Grand Conclave celebration was deemed to be the single most significant event on Omega’s horizon. The dates selected were July 25-August 1, 1986 in Washington, D.C., the city of Omega’s birth. It was the largest Conclave ever.

Grand Basileus Moses C. Norman, Sr., elected at the 1984 Louisville Grand Conclave, appointed a committee to review the structure and operations of the fraternity as a means of future focus. In 1984, John S. Epps was selected as only the fifth Omega Man to wear the title of Executive Secretary. In 1990, the title was changed to Executive Director.

Two revised methods of bringing members into the fraternity were approved by the organization. Pledging was abolished and the new Membership Selection and Education Program came into being on August 1, 1985. In April, 1991, the new Membership Intake Program was implemented.

Initial plans were begun for the writing of an updated history of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. H. Carl Moultrie, I, Executive Secretary Emeritus and Ronald E. McNair, noted astronaut, entered Omega Chapter. Don Q. Pullen and W. Mercer Cook also entered Omega Chapter.

C. Tyrone Gilmore, Sr. became the 34th Grand Basileus in June 1990. Under his leadership, a site for a new World Center and International Headquarters in Decatur, Georgia was identified. Also, the complete structure was revamped and the International Chapters were transformed into the thirteenth district.

Dorsey C. Miller, Jr. was chosen as the 35th Grand Basileus at the Cleveland Grand Conclave in 1994. Miller’s administration was responsible for closing the sale in regard to the acquisition of the new property, located at 3951 Snapfinger Parkway, Decatur, Gerogia 30035, and the disposition of the property located at 2714 Georgia Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. The Georgia Avenue location had served as the headquarters of the fraternity for thirty-one years.
Lloyd J. Jordan, Esq. became the 36th Grand Basileus in 1998 at the 70th Grand Conclave in New Orleans, Louisiana. Jordan’s administration was instrumental in combating litigations as a result of illegal hazing activities, thus keeping the fraternity’s infrastructure in tact. June 1, 2000, Sylvester Earl Wilson began his tenure as the Executive Director.

THE NEW MILLENIUM
George Grace became the 37th Grand Basileus in 2002 at the 72nd Grand Conclave in Charlotte, NC. Grace’s administration was responsible for setting the fraternity on a course of financial solvency through its theme of economic empowerment for social and political change.

Warren Lee became the 38th Grand Basileus in 2006 at the 74th Grand Conclave in Little Rock, AR. Lee’s administration fostered a new era in Omega in terms of visionary leadership and aligning the fraternity’s programs with a singular point of focus. Lee also undertook efforts to reorganize the fraternity’s structure and to recalibrate Omega’s relationships with her affiliate organizations.

Dr. Andrew Ray became the 39th Grand Basileus in 2010 at the 76th Grand Conclave in Raleigh, NC. Brother Ray’s administration ushered in the 100th anniversary of this illustrious organization with a Centennial Celebration in Washington, D.C. in July of 2011. Dr. Ray’s administration took bold steps to perpetuate the fraternity’s undergraduate presence by seeding undergraduate endowments at: Alpha Chapter (Howard University), Beta Chapter (Lincoln University), Eta Gamma Chapter (Central State University), Beta Sigma Chapter (Southern University), Tau Epsilon Chapter (Texas Southern University), Rho Psi Chapter (Tennessee State University), Phi Psi Chapter (Langston University), Beta Gamma Chapter (Cheyney University), Gamma Epsilon Chapter (Hampton University), and Mu Psi Chapter (North Carolina A&T University).

Antonio Knox became the 40th Grand Basileus in 2014 at the 79th Grand Conclave in Philadelphia, PA. Bro. Knox’s administration continues the long legacy of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift established by his predecessors and our Founders.

Omega has continued to flourish largely because Founders Love, Cooper, Coleman, and Just were men of the very highest ideals and intellect. The Founders selected and attracted men of similar ideals and characteristics.

It is not by accident that many of America’s greatest black men are/were Omega men. To this date, there are very few Americans whose lives have not been touched by a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Omega has a rich heritage to be protected, celebrated, and enhanced.
APPENDIX I
Founders

Dr. Ernest E. Just
(1883-1941)
Ernest E. Just was born in Charleston, South Carolina.
Graduated from the Industrial School of the State College, Orangeburg, South Carolina.
Kimball Union Academy, Meriden, New Hampshire
Bachelor of Arts Degree, Dartmouth College (Phi Beta Kappa)
Doctor of Philosophy Degree, University of Chicago
Awarded the Spingarn Medal by the NAACP, 1915

Professor Frank Coleman
(1890-1967)
Frank Coleman was born in Washington, D.C.
Graduated from the M Street High School, Washington, D.C.
Bachelor of Science Degree, Howard University, 1913
Master of Science Degree, University of Chicago
Advanced Training, University of Pennsylvania
Professor and head of the Physics Department, Howard University
U.S. Army Officer, World War I

Dr. Oscar J. Cooper
(1888-1972)
Oscar J. Cooper was born in Washington, D.C.
Graduated from the M Street High School, Washington, D.C.
Bachelor of Science Degree, Howard University, 1913
Doctor of Medicine Degree, Howard University, 1917
Practiced medicine in Philadelphia, PA for 50 years

Bishop Edgar A. Love
(1891-1974)
Edgar A. Love was born in Virginia
Graduated from the Academy of Morgan College
Bachelor of Arts Degree, Howard University, 1913
Bachelor of Sacred Theology Degree, Howard University, 1916
Bachelor of Divinity Degree, Boston University, 1918
Doctor of Divinity Degree (Honorary), Morgan College, 1935
U.S. Army Chaplain, World War II
Bishop, Methodist Church
## APPENDIX II
### GRAND BASILEI

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>TERM OF OFFICE</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1  Edgar A. Love</td>
<td>1911-1912</td>
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<tr>
<td>2  Oscar J. Cooper</td>
<td>1912-1913</td>
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<tr>
<td>3  Edgar A. Love *</td>
<td>1913-1915</td>
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<td>4  George A. Hall</td>
<td>1915-1916</td>
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<td>5  James C. McMorries</td>
<td>1916-1917</td>
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<tr>
<td>6  Clarence F. Holmes</td>
<td>1917-1918</td>
<td>Deceased</td>
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<tr>
<td>7  Raymond G. Robinson</td>
<td>1918-1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>8  Harold H. Thomas</td>
<td>1920-1921</td>
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<td>9  J. Alston Atkins</td>
<td>1921-1924</td>
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<td>10 John W. Love</td>
<td>1924-1924</td>
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<td>11 George E. Vaughn</td>
<td>1924-1926</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Julius S. McClain</td>
<td>1926-1929</td>
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<td>13 Matthew W. Bullock</td>
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<td>14 Lawrence A. Oxley</td>
<td>1932-1935</td>
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<td>15 William E. Baugh</td>
<td>1935-1937</td>
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<td>16 Albert W. Dent</td>
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<td>17 Z. Alexander Looby</td>
<td>1940-1945</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 Campbell C. Johnson</td>
<td>1945-1947</td>
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<td>19 Harry T. Penn</td>
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<td>20 Milo C. Murray</td>
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<td>21 Grant Reynolds</td>
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<td>23 Herbert E. Tucker, Jr.</td>
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<td>24 I. Gregory Newton</td>
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<td>25 Cary D. Jacobs</td>
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<td>26 George E. Meares</td>
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<td>27 Ellis F. Corbett</td>
<td>1967-1970</td>
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<td>28 James A. Avery</td>
<td>1970-1973</td>
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<td>29 Marion W. Garnett</td>
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<td>30 Edward J. Braynon, Jr.</td>
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<td>31 Burnel E. Coulon</td>
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<td>32 L. Benjamin Livingston</td>
<td>1982-1984</td>
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<td>33 Moses C. Norman, Sr.</td>
<td>1984-1990</td>
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<td>34 C. Tyrone Gillmore, Sr.</td>
<td>1990-1994</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>35 Dorsey C. Miller</td>
<td>1994-1998</td>
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<tr>
<td>36 Lloyd J. Jordan, Esq.</td>
<td>1998-2002</td>
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<td>37 George H. Grace</td>
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<td>38 Warren G. Lee</td>
<td>2006-2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>39 Andrew Ray</td>
<td>2010-2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>40 Antonio Knox</td>
<td>2014-Present</td>
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* Elected to position for a second time.
APPENDIX III
GRAND CONCLAVES

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<th>No.</th>
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<td>Baltimore, MD</td>
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<td>9th</td>
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<td>27th</td>
<td>New York, NY</td>
<td>1939</td>
<td>66th</td>
<td>Detroit, MI</td>
<td>1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
<td>1940</td>
<td>67th</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
<td>1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th</td>
<td>Indianapolis, IN</td>
<td>1941</td>
<td>68th</td>
<td>Cleveland, OH</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th</td>
<td>Little Rock, AR</td>
<td>1944</td>
<td>69th</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
<td>1996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32nd</td>
<td>Fort Worth, TX</td>
<td>1946</td>
<td>71st</td>
<td>Indianapolis, IN</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33rd</td>
<td>Detroit, MI</td>
<td>1947</td>
<td>72nd</td>
<td>Charlotte, NC</td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34th</td>
<td>Columbus, OH</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>73rd</td>
<td>St. Louis, MO</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35th</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>74th</td>
<td>Little Rock, AR</td>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36th</td>
<td>Boston, MA</td>
<td>1950</td>
<td>75th</td>
<td>Birmingham, AL</td>
<td>2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37th</td>
<td>Miami, FL</td>
<td>1951</td>
<td>76th</td>
<td>Raleigh, NC</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39th</td>
<td>Cincinnati, OH</td>
<td>1953</td>
<td></td>
<td>(100th Anniversary)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40th</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
<td>1954</td>
<td>78th</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41st</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td>79th</td>
<td>Philadelphia, PA</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>80th</td>
<td>Las Vegas, NV</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No conclaves in 1930, 1942, and 1943. From 1962-1986, Conclaves were scheduled every 18 months (except for 1983). After 1986, Conclaves were scheduled every 2 years.
## APPENDIX IV
### HISTORICALLY & PREDOMINANTLY BLACK COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>President</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clafin College</td>
<td>Dr. Henry N. Tisdale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Waters College</td>
<td>Dr. Jimmy R. Jenkins, Sr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise State Jr. College</td>
<td>Dr. Stafford L. Thompson, Sr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grambling State University</td>
<td>Dr. Steve Favor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hampton University</td>
<td>Dr. William R. Harvey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard University</td>
<td>Dr. H. Patrick Swgert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky State University</td>
<td>Dr. George W. Reid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln University of Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Dr. Ivory V. Nelson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meharry Medical College</td>
<td>Dr. John E. Maupin, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morehouse College</td>
<td>Dr. Walter E. Massey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris College</td>
<td>Dr. Luns C. Richardson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rust College</td>
<td>Dr. David L. Beckley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sojourner-Davis College</td>
<td>Dr. Charles W. Simmons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee State University</td>
<td>Dr. James A. Hefner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff</td>
<td>Dr. Lawrence A. Davis, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia State University</td>
<td>Dr. Eddie N. Moore, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiley College</td>
<td>Dr. Haywood Strickland</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX V

INTERNATIONALLY MANDATED PROGRAMS

ACHIEVEMENT WEEK - Originally designed to promote the study of Negro life and history. Achievement Week is observed in November of each year and is designed to seek out and give due recognition to those individuals at the local and international levels who have made a noteworthy contribution toward improving the quality of life for black Americans. A High School Essay Contest is to be held in conjunction with Achievement Week. This contest is open to all college-bound high school seniors. College scholarships are awarded to the winners, each of whom must submit an essay on a theme/topic chosen by the fraternity. This contest is a phase of the International Achievement Week observance.

SCHOLARSHIP - The Scholarship Program is intended to promote academic excellence among the undergraduate members. Graduate chapters are expected to provide financial assistance to student members and non-members. A portion of the fraternity's international budget is allocated to scholarships through the Charles R. Drew Scholarship Commission.

SOCIAL ACTION PROGRAMS - All levels of the fraternity are expected to facilitate, participate and coordinate activities that will uplift their communities. An international committee will coordinate the multifaceted programs of the various chapters. Some of the activities under the umbrella of social action include, but are not limited to: voter registration, education and “getting out the vote”; Assault on Illiteracy; Habitat for Humanity; volunteering time to charities and less fortunate individuals; mentoring; and participation in fundraisers for charities such as American Diabetes Association, United Way, Sickle Cell Anemia, etc.

TALENT HUNT PROGRAM - This program provides exposure, encouragement and financial assistance to talented young people participating in the Performing Arts. Winners of the competition are awarded recognition for their talents. Awards may include college scholarships.

MEMORIAL SERVICE - March 12th of each year has been established as Memorial Day. Chapters are expected to conduct an appropriate service to recall the memory of those members who have entered into Omega Chapter.

RECLAMATION AND RETENTION - A concerted effort at the international, district and local levels to retain active brothers and return inactive brothers to full participatory status so that they may enjoy the full benefits of Omega.

COLLEGE ENDOWMENT FUND - Each year the fraternity gives at least $50,000.00 to Historically Black College Institutions (HBCU) in furtherance of Omega's commitment to provide philanthropic support. Chapters are assessed donations based on chapter size.

HEALTH INITIATIVES - All levels of the fraternity are expected to facilitate, participate and/or coordinate activities that will uplift their communities by promoting good health practices. An international committee will coordinate and facilitate multifaceted programs of the various chapters, districts, etc. It is anticipated that all local chapters will execute the health directives at the local level. Some of the programs under the umbrella of Health Initiatives are the Charles Drew Blood Drive (normally held in June), AIDS/HIV Awareness, and the American Diabetes Association Partnership. This does not prevent the local chapters from performing additional health initiatives under the umbrella of the Health Initiatives mandate.

VOTER REGISTRATION, EDUCATION AND MOBILIZATION - All levels of the fraternity are expected to facilitate, participate and/or coordinate activities that will uplift their communities
through the power of the vote. An international committee will coordinate and facilitate multifaceted programs of the various chapters, districts, etc. It is anticipated that all local chapters will execute the directives at the local level. This does not prevent the local chapters from performing additional voter initiatives under the umbrella of the Voter Education, Registration and Mobilization mandate.

**NAACP** - Every district and chapter of the fraternity is required to maintain a Life Membership at Large in the NAACP. In the event that a chapter or district is not a life member of the NAACP, it must maintain a yearly membership to be in good standing with the fraternity. Furthermore, all members of the fraternity are strongly encouraged to become members of the NAACP.

(Chapters are required to administer these programs annually.)
## APPENDIX VI  
### NOTABLE OMEGA MEN

These are but a few of the many representatives of whom Omega is proud.

### ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Langston Hughes</td>
<td>The Black Poet laureate, excelled as a poet, playwright, novelist, lyricist, and humorist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sterling Brown</td>
<td>Teacher, poet, writer, Professor Emeritus of Literature at Howard University, has a special foundation for folk culture and jazz music.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roland Hayes</td>
<td>Internationally known tenor of the 1920s. Hayes sang in five different languages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William (Count) Basie</td>
<td>Internationally known pianist, composer, arranger, and band leader.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don Q. Pullen</td>
<td>Pianist and composer; composed the “Sweetheart Song” of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moses Gunn</td>
<td>Actor of stage and screen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Byrd</td>
<td>Actor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William H. (Bill) Cosby</td>
<td>TV, Film, Comedian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Harvey</td>
<td>TV, Comedian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Joyner</td>
<td>Radio host</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wanya Morris</td>
<td>Singer – Boyz II Men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maxwell Leonard Roach</td>
<td>Jazz musician</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rickey Smiley</td>
<td>TV, Comedian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Torey</td>
<td>TV, Comedian</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CIVIL RIGHTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grant Reynolds</td>
<td>Played a major role in President Truman’s 1948 decision to desegregate the United States Armed Forces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Nabrit</td>
<td>Former Dean of the Howard University Law School and former president of Howard University. A leader in the training of the early civil rights lawyers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiley Branton</td>
<td>Attorney for the “Little Rock Nine” and former Dean of the Howard University School of Law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roy Wilkins</td>
<td>Long-time Executive Director of the NAACP.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin Hooks</td>
<td>Succeeded Roy Wilkins as Executive Director of the NAACP. Hooks retired in 1992.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Role/Title</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vernon Jordan</td>
<td>Noted attorney and former Executive Director of the National Urban League.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse Jackson</td>
<td>Former Director of Operation P.U.S.H.; Founder, National Rainbow Coalition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Gray</td>
<td>Attorney for Rosa Parks and the Montgomery, AL Improvement Association.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EDUCATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role/Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carter G. Woodson</td>
<td>The earliest and most outspoken proponent for the study of Black History.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin Mayes</td>
<td>President Emeritus of Morehouse College, writer and lecturer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GOVERNMENT & POLITICS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role/Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William Hastie</td>
<td>First Governor of the Virgin Islands.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George L. P. Weaver</td>
<td>Former U.S. Secretary of Labor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert C. Weaver</td>
<td>Former U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clifford L. Alexander, Jr.</td>
<td>Secretary, Department of the Army.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence Douglas Wilder</td>
<td>Former Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurbert Baker</td>
<td>Georgia Attorney General.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Campbell</td>
<td>Former mayor, Atlanta, GA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Clyburn</td>
<td>U.S. Congressman from South Carolina – U.S. House of Representatives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Gary Cooper</td>
<td>U.S.A. Ambassador to Jamaica.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roscoe Robinson</td>
<td>First Black four-star general – U.S. Army.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Zimmerman</td>
<td>Former Chief of Chaplains – U.S. Army.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Togo West</td>
<td>Former Secretary of the Army.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerald Lewis James, II</td>
<td>Lt. Governor, U.S. Virgin Islands.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Bernard Kincaid</td>
<td>Mayor, City of Birmingham, AL.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
James Sharpe  
Mayor, Newark, NJ.

Paul Stephenson  
Mayor of Willingboro, NJ.

Robert Weaver  
Former U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

Kweisi Mfume  
Former Congressman and President of the NAACP

**MEDICINE/SCIENCE**

Ernest E. Just  
Internally known biological and professor at Howard University.

Charles R. Drew  
Perfected the use of blood plasma; Professor of Surgery at Howard University.

Percy L. Julian  
Discovered the use of foam to extinguish fires and discovered a method of producing cortisone synthetically.

Ron McNair  
Astronaut, graduate of North Carolina A&T University, graduate of MIT, Ph.D.

Frederick Gregory  
Astronaut, graduate of the United States Air Force Academy (pilot), Commander of two Space Shuttle Missions (Space Shuttle Discovery and Space Shuttle Atlantis), nephew of Dr. Charles Drew.

Charles Bolden  
Astronaut, graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Administrator of NASA, Commander of two Space Shuttle missions (Space Shuttle Atlantis and Space Shuttle Discovery).

Dr. Warren Jones  
President, American Academy of Family Physicians.

Dr. David Satcher  
Former Surgeon General of the United States of America.

**MILITARY**

Clifford L. Alexander Jr.  
Former Secretary of the Army.

Joe Ballard  
Lt. General, U.S. Army (Ret)

James E. Donald  
Major General, U.S. Army

Ernest Harrell  
Major General, U.S. Army (Ret)

James H. Monroe  
Major General, U.S. Army (Ret).

William Russ  
Major General, U.S. Army

Abe Turner  
Brig. General, U.S. Army

Kip Ward  
Lt. General, U.S. Army
Togo West  
Former Secretary of the Army.

**BUSINESS/COMMERCE**

Gillard S. Glover  
Former President of Afro-American Life Insurance

Nathaniel Bonner  
Former co-owner of Bonner Brothers Beauty Supplies

Albert Byrd  
Vice-President, Xerox Corporation

Gregory Calhoun  
Calhoun Enterprises

Vergis Colbert  
Executive Vice-President of Operations, Miller Brewing Co.

Howard Dawson, Jr.  
Dawson Management Company

Thomas Dortch  
National Chairman, 100 Black Men of America

Jim Elam  
President, Bellmount Park Laboratory; President, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Credit Union

Tony Grant  
Bank of America

Joseph W. Goodloe  
Former President, N.C. Mutual Life Insurance Co.

Dr. Ronald Goldsberry  
Vice-President, Ford Motor Company

Earl S. Graves, Sr.  
CEO, Black Enterprise Magazine

Jesse Hill  
Former President, Atlanta Life Insurance Co.

Robert Holmes  
Vice-President, Alabama Power Co.

William J. Kennedy III  
Former President, N.C. Mutual Life Insurance Co.

Byron Lewis  
CEO, Uniworld Group, Inc.

Edward Lewis  
CEO, Essence Communications, Inc.

Therman McKenzie  
CEO, McKenzie Chemical

T.C. Newman  
Owner, Mill Cove Golf Club

Otis Smith  
General Counsel, General Motors Corp.

Isaiah Tidwell  
President, Wachovia Bank of Georgia

Dave Moss  
Entrepreneur
ATHLETICS

DeHart Hubbard  A University of Michigan sprinter; was the first Black person to represent the United States in the Olympic Games (1924)

Joe Black  An all-time great Brooklyn Dodger baseball pitcher. In 1952, he had the lowest earned run average in the major leagues.

Ray Armstead, U.S. Olympic Gold Medalist  Robert Pourche, NFL
Erich Barnes, NFL  Greg Pruitt, NFL
Eric Bienemy, NFL  Ahmad Rashad, NFL, TV
Clifton Blanchett, Pro Bass Fisherman  Dr. Sanford Rivers, NFL Official
Zach Crockett, NFL  Eddie Robinson, NFL
Michael Charles, NFL  Alvin Robertson, NBA
David Coleman, NFL Official  John Sallay, NBA, TV
Johnny Davis, NFL  Al Smith, NFL
Tony Delk, NBA  Ryan Stewart, NFL
Ken Dollar, NFL Official  Andre Tippett, NFL
Mark Duper, NFL  Terrance Trammell, U.S. Olympic Silver Medalist
Greg Favors, NBA  Elston Turner, NBA Assistant Coach
William Floyd, NFL  Shammond Williams, NBA
Irving Fryar, NFL  Corliss Williamson, NBA
Randy Fuller, NFL  Charlie Ward, Jr., NBA
William Fuller, NFL  Matthew “Matt” Snell, NFL
Keith Jackson, NFL  Maurice “Mo” Vaughn, MLB
Ed “Too Tall” Jones, NFL  Dr. Leroy T. Walker, Former President of the U.S. Olympic Comm.
Michael Jordan, NBA  Ray Lewis, NFL
David Justice, MLB  Dominique Wilkins, NBA
Kevin Mack, NFL Official  Billy Hunter, Executive Director, NBA Players Association
Martin Mayhew, NFL  Michael Conley, Sports Agent
Cedric Maxwell, NBA  Stephen A. Smith, Sports Reporter, TV Personality, & Host
Raleigh McKenzie, NFL
Reggie McKenzie, NFL
Steve McNair, NFL
Alonzo Mourning, NBA
Ozzie Newsom, NFL Executive
Shaquille O’Neal, NBA
APPENDIX VII
POEMS AND OTHER MATERIAL

Preamble to the Constitution of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity

We, the members of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, believing that men of similar ideals of fellowship should bind themselves together in order to form a more perfect union among college men, to promote the principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift, to further brotherly love and fraternal spirit within the organization, to protect the sanctity of the home and the chastity of woman, do enact and establish the Constitution and accompanying Bylaws for the government of its members.

Members Versus Men

The value of your Fraternity is not in numbers, but in men, in real brotherhood. Eight men thoroughly immersed in the true Omega Spirit are far greater assets than eighty with lukewarm enthusiasm.

Do thy duty that is best; leave onto the Lord the rest.

Omega Dear
By Mercer Cook & Dr. Charles Drew

Omega Dear, we are thine own,
Thou art our life, our love, our home.
We'll sing thy praises far and nigh,
We love Omega Psi Phi.

To all thy precepts make us true,
Live nobly as all real men do,
Let manhood be our eternal shrine;
With faith in God, and heart, and mind.

Through days of joy or years of pain,
To serve Thee'ër will be our aim,
And when we say our last goodbye,
We'll love Omega Psi Phi.

Sweetheart Song
By Don Q. Pullen

Dear Omega Girl, I love you
With a love that is divine:
Swear by all the stars above you
That my love will be but thine.
When the moon appears those pleasant mem'ries,
Then I have you near but not for really,
Dear Omega Girl, I love you –
Sweetheart of Omega Dear.
See It Through
By Edgar A. Guest

When you’re up against a trouble meet it squarely face to face.
Lift your chin, set your shoulders, plant your feet and take a brace.
When it’s vain to try and dodge it, do the best that you can do,
you may fail, yet you may conquer – see it through.

Black may be the clouds about you and your future may seem grim.
But don’t let your nerve desert you – keep yourself in fighting trim.
If the worst is bound to happen in spite of all that you may do,
running from it will not save you – see it through.

Even hope may seem but futile when with troubles you’re beset,
But remember you are facing just what other men have met.
You may fail, but fall still fighting – don’t give up whate’er you do.
Eyes front, head high, to the finish – SEE IT THROUGH!

Psalms 133

Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the
precious ointment upon the head that ran down upon the beard – even Aaron’s beard that went
down to the skirts of his garment as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the
mountains of Zion. For there the Lord commanded the blessings – even life, forever more. Amen.

Invictus
By William Ernest Henley

Out of the night that covers me,
black as a pit from pole to pole.
I thank whatever gods may be,
for my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance,
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance,
my head is bloody but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears,
looms but the horror of the shade.
And yet the menace of the years,
finds, and shall find me unafraid.

It matters not how straight the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll.
I am the master of my fate,
I am the captain of my soul.
Gentleman

A gentleman is a person who is clean inside and outside…
Who neither looks up to the rich nor down on the poor…
A gentleman is a person who can lose without squealing, and who can win without bragging…
A gentleman is a person who is considerate to women, children, and old people, who is too brave to lie, too generous to cheat, and too sensible to loaf…
A gentleman is a person who takes his share of the world’s goods and lets other people take theirs.

To Artina
Langston Hughes

I will take your heart
I will take your soul out of your body
As though I were God.
I will not be satisfied
With the little words you say to me
I will not be satisfied
With the touch of your hand
Nor the sweet of your lips alone.
I will take your heart for mine.
I will take your soul.
I will be God when it comes to you.

Life
Paul Lawrence Dunbar

A crust of bread and a corner to sleep in,
A minute to smile and an hour to weep in,
A pint of joy to a peck of trouble,
And never a laugh, but the moans come double;
And that is life!

A crust and a corner that love makes precious,
With the smile to warm, and the tears to refresh us;
And joy seems sweeter when cares come after,
And a moan is the finest of foils for laughter;
And that is life!
**Mother To Son**  
*Langston Hughes*

Well son, I'll tell you:  
Life for me ain't been no crystal stair,  
It's had tacks in it,  
And splinters,  
And boards torn up,  
And places with no carpet on the floor –  
Bare.  
But all the time  
I's been a-climbin' on,  
And reachin' landin's,  
And turnin' corners,  
And sometimes goin' in the dark  
Where there ain't been no light.  
So boy, don't you turn back.  
Don't you set down on the steps  
'Caus you find id's kinder hard.  
Don't you fall now –  
For I's still goin', honey,  
I's still climbin',  
And life for me ain't been on crystal stair.

**The Bridgebuilder**  
*W.A. Dromgoole*

An old man going a lone highway  
Came at the evening cold and gray,  
To a chasm vast, and wide, and steep,  
With waters rolling cold and deep.  
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,  
The sullen stream had no fears for him.  
But he turned when safe on the other side,  
and built a bridge to span the tide.  

“Old man,” said a fellow pilgrim near.  
“You’re wasting your strength with building here.  
Your journey will end with the ending day.  
You never again will pass this way.  
You’ve crossed the chasm deep and wide,  
Why build you this bridge at eventide?”

The builder lifted his old, gray head.  
“Good friend, in the path I’ve come” he said.  
“There followeth after me today  
A youth whose feet must pass this way.  
The journey that was as naught to me,  
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.  
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim -  
Good friend, I am building this bridge for him.”
If
By Rudyard Kipling

If you can keep your head when all about you
are loosing theirs and blaming it on you;
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting, too.
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good nor talk too wise;

If you can dream — and not make dreams your master;
If you can think — and not make thoughts your aim,
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two imposters just the same:
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things your gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools;

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch and toss,
And loose and start again at your beginnings,
And never breathe a word about your loss.
If your can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve their turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the will which says to them: "Hold on!"

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with kings nor loose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count on you but none too much:
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
with sixty seconds worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And — which is more — you will be a man, my son!
It Couldn't Be Done  
By Edgar Guest

Somebody said that it couldn't be done,  
But he with a chuckle replied  
That "maybe it couldn't," but he would be one  
Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.  
So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin  
On his face. If he worried he hid it.  
He started to sing as he tackled the thing  
That couldn't be done, and he did it.

Somebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never do that;  
At least no one ever has done it";  
But he took off his coat and he took off his hat,  
And the first thing we knew he'd begun it.  
With a lift of his chin and a bit of a grin,  
Without any doubting or quiddit,  
He started to sing as he tackled the thing  
That couldn't be done, and he did it.

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,  
There are thousands to prophesy failure;  
There are thousands to point out to you, one by one,  
The dangers that wait to assail you.  
But just buckle in with a bit of a grin,  
Just take off your coat and go to it;  
Just start to sing as you tackle the thing  
That "cannot be done," and you'll do it.